

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 01444 020028Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6532  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
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AMCONSUL MEDAN  
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AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC  
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1444

USIA PASS IEA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ID, SOPN  
SUBJECT: EDITORS DELIEVE RE-OPENING OF SUSPENDED NEWSPAPERS NEAR/  
NEW TENSION IN BANDUNG

REF: A) JAKARTA 1302 (DTG 300915Z JAN 78), B) IR 6 845 050 78

1. SUMMARY. AT LEAST SOME OF THE EDITORS OF THE SEVEN  
SUSPENDED NEWSPAPERS HAVE APPARENTLY AGREED TO A GOVERNMENT-  
INSPIRED PROCESS OF MEA CULPA WHICH THEY BELIEVE WILL PERMIT  
THEM TO RE-OPEN SOON. NEW STUDNET DEMONSTRATIONS ON BANDUNG CAMPUSES  
HAVE REPORTEDLY LED TO STATIONING OF TROOPS AT SEVERAL  
CAMPUSES AND A NEW FEELING OF TENSION THERE. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE EDITORS OF AT LEAST SOME OF THE SEVEN SUSPENDED  
JAKARTA DAILIES HAVE APPARENTLY AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH A  
GOVERNMENT-INSPIRED, THREE-STAGE PROCESS OF WRITTEN AND  
ORAL MEA CULPA WHICH THEY THINK WILL PERMIT THEM TO BEGIN  
PUBLISHING SOON, PERHAPS THIS SATURDAY. THE FIRST STEP,  
THE COLLECTIVE EDITORS' LETTER TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO, WAS  
IMPLEMENTED LAST WEEK. TODAY, AS STEP TWO, EACH OF THE

SEVEN PAPERS WAS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN INDIVIDUAL LETTER TO KOPKAMTIB AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION,WHIICH AMONG OTHER THINGS PROMISED THAT THE PAPERS WILL " ALWAYS PROTECT THE GOOD NAME OF... THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND THEIR FAMILIES... AND WILL FOLLOW... ALL REGULA-TIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS WHICH ARE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH DEVELOPING A FREE AND RESPONSIBLE PRESS." FINALLY, EACH EDITOR WILL BE SEPARATELY INTERVIEWED BY SECURITY OFFICIALS BEFORE HIS PAPER WILL BE ALLOWED TO PUBLISH. ONE EDITOR TOLD US THAT, IF THE PAPERS GO ALONG (HIS APPARENTLY IS WILLING), THEY MAY BE PUBLISHING AGAIN BY SATURDAY.

3. BANDUNG-RESIDENT SOURCES OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE HAVE FORWARDED FIRST HAND REPORTS OF LARGE AND NOISTY STUDNET DEMONSTRATIONS ON THE CAMPASES OF BANDUNG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE (ITB) AND THE TEACHERS' TRAINING INSTITUTE (IKIP) ON JANUARY 31. THE SAME SOURCES SAY THAT TODAY PARATROOPERS (ABOUT 100 AT IKIP AND MORE AT ITB) SEALED OFF BOTH CAMPUSES. AN ADDITIONAL 100 PARA-TROOPERS HAVE SEALED OFF THE PAJAJARAN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS. NO STUDENTS HAVE CHALLENGED THE TROOPERS SO FAR, BUT ONE SOURCE CLAIMS THE STUDENTS IN BANDUNG ARE VERY UPSET. (FOR A FULLER ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN BANDUNG, SEE REFERENCE B.)  
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4. THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, SYARIF THAYEB, HAS OFFICIALLY AND PUBLICLY ORDERED THE RECTORS OF INDONESIA'S UNIVERSITIES TO IMPOSE "ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS" ON THOSE STUDNETS DETAINED BY SECURITY FORCES, "BASED ON WRITTEN CHARGES THAT THEY VIOLATED THE LAW." THE ORDER DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT SANCTIONS WERE TO BE IMPOSED OR WHO WOULD ISSUE THE WRITTEN CHARGES.

5. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF THE PUBLIC TENSION IN JAKARTA HAS DISSIPATED DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS, THE EVENTS IN BANDUNG AND THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED PRESSURE ON THE RELUCTANT RECTORS INDICATES WE ARE NOT YET OUT OF THE WOODS. EVEN ON THE PRESS FRONT, WHICH NOWLOOKS HOPEFUL, ONE WESTERN JOURNALIST CLAIMS THE PRESTIGIOUS DAILY KOMPAS REMAINS ADAMANT ABOUT NOT GIVING IN TO THE GOVERNMENT. SHOULD KOMPAS AND PERHAPS OTHERS REMAIN BANNED, THE GOOD EFFECT OF RE-OPEING THE REMAINING PAPERS WOULD BE MITIGATED.  
MASTERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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